

## Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSM-05 IO-11 DHA-02 ORM-02 EB-07

TRSE-00 AID-05 COME-00 OMB-01 ACDA-10 MC-02 SAM-01

SAB-01 NEAE-00 CIEP-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 /128 W

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P R 011420Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4813

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS KUWAIT 1030

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EAID EG KU SY XF

SUBJECT: SADAT CRITICISM OF SYRIA DURING VISIT TO KUWAIT

REF: KUWAIT 1025

1. REFTTEL DESCRIBES ECONOMIC/AID ASPECTS OF EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT  
SADAT'S FEB 28-29 VISIT TO KUWAIT. TEXT OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE  
FOLLOWING VISIT BEING SENT SEPTTEL. CONCLUSION VISIT ALSO MARKED  
BY PRESS CONFERENCE DURING WHICH EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT CRITICIZED  
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SYRIA AND JORDAN AND DISCLOSED "SECRET" US/EGYPTIAN UNDERSTANDINGS.

HIGHLIGHTS SUMMARIED BELOW.

2. PRESS CONFERENCE BEGAN WITH SADAT REITERATING USUAL THEMES INCLUDING GOE SUPPORT FOR THE PALESTINIAN CAUSE, CASTIGATION OF THE SOVIET UNION AND A RETURN TO THE GENEVA CONFERENCE WITH A PALESTINIAN PRESENCE. HE ALSO REITERATED "THERE IS NOW NO SCOPE FOR KISSINGER'S STEP-BY-STEP DIPLOMACY." THE MOST SIGNIFICANT NEW ELEMENT WAS SADAT'S STRONG CRITICISM OF SYRIA.

3. IN RESPONDING TO A QUESTION ABOUT FATE OF SINAI AGREEMENT IF WAR BREAKS OUT NEXT MAY, SADAT SAID THAT EGYPT HAD CONCLUDED THREE SECRET AGREEMENTS: "FIRST, AMERICA GUARANTEES THAT ISRAEL WILL NOT UNDERTAKE AGGRESSION AGAINST SYRIA. SECOND, AMERICA UNDERTAKES TO ACHIEVE A DISENGAGEMENT SIMILAR TO THE FIRST SYRIAN DISENGAGEMENT ON THE SYRIAN FRONT AFTER THE SECOND DISENGAGEMENT ON THE EGYPTIAN FRONT. THIRD, AMERICA UNDERTAKES TO DO ITS UTMOST TO LET THE PALESTINIANS PARTICIPATE IN ANY SETTLEMENT." SADAT WENT ON TO SAY ANY WAR INVOLVED TWO POSSIBILITIES. IF ISRAEL INITIATED AGGRESSION, THE SINAI AGREEMENT WOULD BE VIOLATED AND EGYPT WOULD CARRY OUT ITS OBLIGATION TO THE SYRIAN SIDE. HOWEVER, IF SYRIA LAUNCHED A WAR, WHICH SADAT CHARACTERIZED AS DON QUIXOTE HEROISM, "THIS WOULD BE ANOTHER MATTER."

4. SADAT CHARACTERIZED THE 1974 SYRIAN WAR OF ATTRITION AS BEING "NEEDLESS." HE ALSO LASHED OUT AT SYRIAN-JORDANIAN "CONCOCTIONS" AT THE EXPENSE OF OTHER SIDES. WITH RESPECT TO THE SYRIAN ROLE IN LEBANON, SADAT SAID "SYRIA CAME IN AND CLAIMED SHE STOPPED THE WAR. WE ALL KNOW SYRIA WAS PROVIDING WEAPONS TO BOTH SIDES. WHEN SYRIA STOPPED ARMS SHIPMENTS, THE FIGHTING STOPPED."

5. EMBASSY PRESUMES FULL TEXT PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE CARRIED FBIS FILE.

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## Message Attributes

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